Third mine at Neyveli

@2492. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimates of the third mine cut at Neyveli;

(b) what are different sources for the anticipated funds; and

(c) whether Government propose to allot sufficient funds so that it is not affected by the cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The third mine of Neyveli Lignite Corporation was estimated to cost Rs. 1,208.60 crores (excluding interest during construction) at December, 1983 prices.

(b) The source of funds would be plan allocations as and when they become available. The project has also been posed to USSR for co-operation.

(c) The feasibility report prepared earlier is being update with a view to taking up the project in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

2493. [*Transferred to the 26th August,* 1987].

Losses incurred by E. C. L. and BCCL

2494. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Government undertaking viz. Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited have been running into losses for the past few years;

(b) whether the Coal India Limited has proposed to increase the price of coal to make good the losses;

(c) whether Government have accepted the said proposal; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The coal prices are constantly kept under review. The question of increase in the prices will be considered and a decision taken at the appropriate time. There is no specific proposal from Coal India in this behalf under consideration at present.

Foreign visits by high officers of Public Undertakings

2495. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign visits by high officers of Public Undertakings during the last three years alongwith the names of officers, their designations, undertakings they belong to and the countries visited by them; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred including fares and allowances and the number of days spent by them in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Foreign tours by senior executives of public enterprises are undertaken for bonafide official business. In the case of Chief Executives and Functional full-time Directors, prior approval of the Minister in charge is required to be taken whereas the tour programmes of other executives are approved by the Chief Executives of the concerned enterprises.

Information on the number of foreign visits by high officers of public enterprises, names of the enterprises, names of the officers with their designations and the countries etc. is not available and has to be collected from about 225 Central

@Previously Unstarred Question 2381 transferred from the 14th August, 1987.

Government public sector enterprises. Efforts involved in collecting the information will not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

LPG Connections

2496. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who requested for the allotment of LPG connections during the last two years, Statewise;

(b) the number of persons who have been given gas connections during this period, Statewise; and

(c) the number of persons to whom gas connections have been given during the last two years on the recommendation of Members of Parliament, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Statewise number of persons in the waiting list as on April 1 of 1986 and 1987 together with the nmber of connections released in the last two years are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) About 6,680 and 4,430 LPG connections have been sanctioned on the recommendations of Members of Parliament during the calender years 1986 and 1987 (upto 31-7-87) respectively. Statewise data are not maintained in this respect.

Statement

Name of State	No. of persons on waiting for LPG connections		Customers enrolled during	
	As on 1.4.86	As on 1.4.87	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	133367	35213	207081	143929
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1079	1252	796	488
3. Assam	7861	10324	7736	8395
4. Bihar	39611	34904	34596	52839
5. Gujrat	545855	465495	178059	195330
6. Haryana	191308	206406	38823	49651
7. Himachai Pradesh	12185	14068	11707	12011
8. Jammu & Kashmir	32000	22262	15087	20171
9. Karnataka	7748	11875	76691	68120
10. Kerala	3597	3731	77406	63382
11. Madhya Pradesh	158710	133606	128497	86881
12. Maharashtra	792366	666057	320166	304671
13. Manipur	—	400	757	1036
14. Meghalaya	1616	467	191	984